IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Divisional of Patent Application Serial No. 09/434,565, filed November 12, 1999

Applicants : OGATA, Masami et al.

Title : Image Processing Apparatus and Image Processing Method

Art Unit : 2624 (Parent Application)

Examiner : CHEN, Wenpeng (Parent Application)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 26.